

# HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS

## COUNCIL WORKERS - ALL OUT FOR £60!

Hackney Council workers stepped up their fight against low pay on Thursday March 1 when a mass meeting rejected the government's national offer. Members of all three unions involved, NUPE, TGWU and GMWU, all resolved to press the Council for a local settlement and step up strike action. This followed a stormy Council meeting the night before, when acting leader John Kotz' report on the current situation was continually interrupted from the public gallery.

The Council workers' decision meant that all services in the borough will be brought to halt, except residential homes. Only considerable pressure from the shop stewards stopped the workers in residential homes being brought out as well.

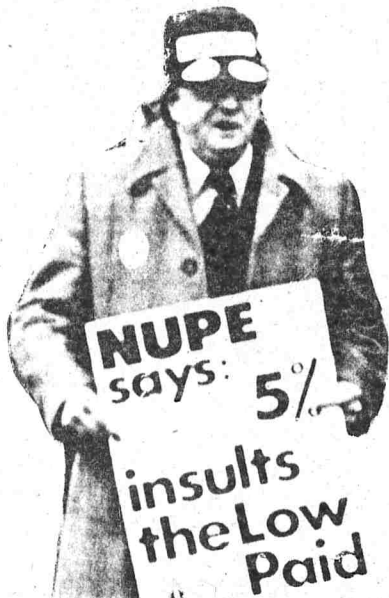
Meals On Wheels kitchen staff decided to join the dispute at the last minute.

Picketing is to be intensified, particularly at the Town Hall, bringing the administration of the borough to a halt. However, the strikers intend to avoid the situation in Tower Hamlets where staff still working - such as those in residential homes and unaffected areas such as building - have their time-sheets and wages kept back. Postmen will be asked not to cross picket lines, taking pressure to the highest levels of the Council's bureaucracy.

### Dismal cold

The Council meeting - which had been allowed to go ahead by the strike committee - was held in a dimly lit Council chamber. Even the hot air coming from the debate was not enough to warm the HPP reporter's feet. Kotz explained the situation in his report. The Council were bound to implement the government's national offer. There was just not enough money in their coffers to pay the workers themselves. The total claim, if met in full, would cost Hackney £3.5

million - equivalent to a 11p rate. The Council, who fully agreed that the workers should get more money, just could not afford to pay that amount and could not implement a local settlement. Furthermore, he said, "the short-term advantages of a local settlement are to the



long-term disadvantage of organised labour." The workers were not in an argument with Hackney Council. "Yes we are" was shouted from the gallery.

An amendment to the motion accepting the acting leader's report was proposed by George Armstrong. This was, in fact, the motion that was due to be debated later in the meeting, which proposed local negotiations and

opposed the government's attempt to use the rate support grant to penalise councils who settled locally. After a lot of procedural wrangling, the amendment was allowed to be debated. The council was told that it had a "duty to its staff and a duty to the people of Hackney to get the strike over with as soon as possible" by Gerry Ross.

Not surprisingly, however, the amendment was defeated by 35 votes to 13, despite further calls from the gallery of "Give us the money and we'll pay the extra rates". At the end of the debate,

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### THE CAMDEN OFFER

The Camden pay offer to their council workers includes a 35-hour week, a minimum wage of £60 (£13 more than the minimum proposed by the national offer) and an increase in the bonus for those working on the bonus scheme, to compensate for the reduction in hours.

This is vastly better than the national offer which the negotiators accepted. Workers from Camden Council are now encouraging other boroughs to stick out for the full claim. If Camden can meet it, there is no reason why other boroughs cannot do so.



Members of the Hackney Black People's Defence Organisation picketing Winston James's court appearance. Photo Project.

## A case of smash & grab

Winston James was arrested at Highbury Court on 19 January when he was attending the hearing of the case against two men accused of the murder of Michael Ferreira. Michael was murdered in Stoke Newington just before Christmas and three white men were originally charged with his killing. Then the case against one was reduced to disturbing the peace, and he was given bail.

On 19 January there was a large number of people (mostly black) picketing the court and packing the public gallery. All the black people were searched as they entered the court. No white person was allowed this privilege, however. The hearing was adjourned, and when there were shouts of protest from the public the magistrates ordered the gallery to be cleared.

People were leaving the court when the police started pushing and pulling at them. One man, Winston James, who protested at the brutal handling of one woman was then set on by police in the hallway of the court.

In the presence of many witnesses Winston James was grabbed, thrown against a table, then flung on the floor. He was punched by several policemen. Then one grabbed his balls and viciously squeezed them. As he screamed in agony the policeman let go and then kicked him in the groin. He was taken down to the cells below the court where he asked to see a doctor. He was not allowed to see one until much later. Nor was he allowed to phone a lawyer.

He was taken to Upper Street Police Station and charged with assaulting and obstructing one policeman and assaulting a second. After being charged he was taken to be fingerprinted and photographed. He refused, but was forced to submit. And he was only allowed bail of £100 if he agreed to report to the police every evening.

Winston has since managed

to get this condition of his bail lifted, when he himself appeared at Highbury Court on these charges.

His case was finally heard on 27 February, and there was another mass picket outside.

The public gallery was packed with anti-racists who heard Winston's barrister, Ian Macdonald, destroy the prosecution's case.

### No kid gloves

PC Drew 563 was called as a witness and admitted that Winston "was not treated with kid gloves, it's true to say that." Just what this meant we learnt a little later when Macdonald asked:

"If people came to this court and said that they saw you kick and punch the defendant in the groin what would you say?"

Drew: "They would be mistaken. I know what I did." A couple of minutes later Drew admitted:

"In fact, I grabbed hold of the defendant by his testicles." Macdonald: "Why?"

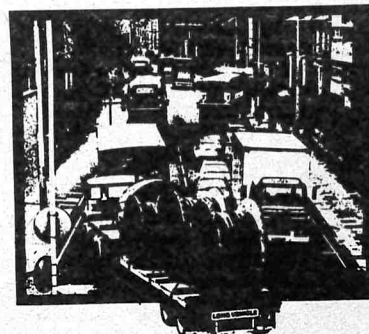
Drew: "To enable me to control him, sir."

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## Juggernauts out of Graham Road





# A case of smash & grab

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Macdonald: "At the time this happened he was on the floor, wasn't he?"

Drew: "He was kicking out with his feet."

Macdonald went on to ask the policeman about what had led up to this incident. The magistrates objected to his line of questioning - seemingly because the policeman didn't know the answers to a lot of his questions. Macdonald answered them by saying:

"My case is that this policeman has been telling lies from start to finish." He went on to accuse the magistrates of "exhibiting a predisposition to prejudge the case."

When he returned to cross-examine Drew, Macdonald said:

"I suggest that while you were kicking him in the genitals, his legs and arms were being firmly held by other officers."

Drew: "There were only two officers there."

Later PC Gaughan 531, who was helping to control Winston, was cross-examined by Macdonald and admitted:

"I was on his arms and chest, and numerous other officers came to control his legs etc."

Macdonald: "You were definitely aware of more than one?"

Gaughan: "Yes."

Macdonald: "In your training you are taught how to restrain people with minimum risk to yourself, aren't you?"

Gaughan: "Yes."

Macdonald: "You're not taught to grab them by the testicles are you?"

Gaughan: "I can't answer questions about police training."

Macdonald (again): "You're not taught to grab them by the testicles are you?"

Gaughan (hesitantly): "No."

Macdonald: "Would you say that it's wrong to grab people by the testicles?"

Gaughan: "It's wrong but it could be necessary."

Macdonald: "It wasn't necessary because there were plenty of policemen there."

Gaughan: "It makes our job a lot easier - he stopped struggling."

Macdonald: "If you hit him over the head with a truncheon he'd stop struggling too, wouldn't he?"

Magistrate: "But the police didn't do that, did they?"

Macdonald (furiously): "I'm wasting my time - this bench is totally biased."

## MEDICAL EVIDENCE

Really telling evidence was provided by the totally contradictory evidence of two doctors. The police doctor, Dr James Henry, said that:

"Winston James alleged injury to his penis, his left leg and the left side of his face. There was no injury visible on his penis, his left leg or the left side of his face. I certified that he was fit to be detained."

In the evening of the same day Winston was examined by Dr Murphy, a casualty officer at the Whittington Hospital. He said:

"I found a scratch on the left wrist, an abrasion on the left shin and a lesion on the penis. He was tender around the testicles. I took a urine sample and when this was tested

it was found to contain blood, which might be consistent with damage to the genitals."

The magistrate then asked whether the injury could have been caused in the three hours between being released from police custody and seeing the doctor!

When it became clear that the case wouldn't be finished that day the magistrates tried to adjourn until 22 March. However the defence was allowed to call an American woman, Kim Richards, who will be back in the USA by then. She gave evidence after the normal finishing time of 4pm which



tallied with that of the other defence witnesses and revealed that when she attempted to stop the police attacking Winston she was punched in the stomach by a police inspector.

Several more defence witnesses will be called when the case resumes on 22 March. There will be another picket at the court that day - as there will be when the cases of the Morris brothers come up at Old Street. Philip appears on 20 March and Dennis and Lee on 11 April.

Contact Hackney Black People's Defence Organisation for details. HBPDO, Box 11, c/o 136 Kingsland High Street, E8. (735 2101 Mon-Fri 10am-6pm.)

## ALL OUT FOR £60!

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the strikers all left the gallery, leaving a long purple banner hanging down, which read: "LBH abuses its workers".

In fact, Hackney Council has already budgeted for an increase in wages of 15% for the financial year 1978/9. And it has under-spent its budget for this year by £10 million. There has been no rate increase for two years - not even one to match the rate of inflation. Tommy Douras, chairperson of Hackney's NUPE branch, pointed out to HPP that this was a conscious political decision taken in an election year to gain votes. He also said that the cost of running the borough's services are "far cheaper" in Hackney than in other boroughs.

The Council could afford to pay, as Camden has already done. The low-paid have taken the brunt of wage suppression during the reactionary passage of this Labour government. "Enough is enough," the workers say. A Labour council, especially a council which calls itself "socialist", which Hackney does, should settle with them and show other councils up and down the country the way. "No more promises - action today!"

# BR RIP-OFF PLAN

As many of us may know, the train service to stations such as Rectory Road and Stamford Hill leaves much to be desired and the reliable North London Line has only been kept at a reasonable frequency in recent years by means of GLC grants. Such is the attitude of British Rail that they pay little attention to Inner City areas such as Hackney - unless prodded by such pressure groups as Hackney Public Transport Action Committee and the North London Line Committee. They take little notice of the views of Hackney Council and generally exclude them from any consultations on train services.

It might seem surprising, therefore, that British Rail is proposing to extend the present Stratford-North Woolwich service to Camden next May, trains using the present freight only line past Hackney station. Not only that, but in spite of the fact that both the North London Line and North Woolwich Line have had subsidies, British Rail are prepared to operate both the NLL and the new services with no GLC subsidy.

So are we witnessing a change of heart by BR? Are they at last showing some sense of responsibility towards Hackney? Don't be fooled!

The new service starting in May is essentially a 'foot in the door'. It is the first move of a plan which they hope will free them of the need for Broad Street station at very little cost to themselves and they are prepared to spend a little money on the new service this year to start the plan moving.

As the first part of the plan, three stations will be built in Hackney (at Kingsland High Street, Hackney Central and Hackney Wick), these being given to BR by the GLC. However, although North Woolwich-Camden trains will stop at these stations from May 1980, the train service will not, according to present plans, run on either Saturday or Sunday nor after about 9 pm. Although having three trains an hour at peak, the normal service will only be two trains an hour, running at irregular intervals with gaps of up to forty minutes.

## letter

Dear HPP

We were very interested to see your articles on Northern Ireland and British soldiers there.

We are particularly glad to see a critical look being taken by a local paper at the position of Britain in Ireland.

East London United Troops Out Movement meets regularly in the Trades Hall, 96 Dalston Lane, and is concerned about all matters relating to Britain in Ireland, and also the position of the Irish in Britain.

Meetings are held every Tuesday at 7.45 pm.

Yours

East London UTOM



How HPP predicted the site of the new station last November.

Worse still, the proposed designs for stations at Hackney Central and Hackney Wick, although costing over £300,000 each will be of minimal standard and approached by means of long footpaths. Only Kingsland High Street - where BR has scrapped their original design, thanks to the Ridley Road traders' protest about its siting - stands any chance at the moment of being better. So BR are giving Hackney the least they think they can get away with and are backed by a GLC who are keener to seem to be doing as many things as possible without really making sure that what they are sponsoring is worthwhile.

It is unlikely that the new service will get the use it deserves, that the number of passengers using it will 'disappoint'. BR will then come forward with a 'remedy' - proposing that if the GLC forks out the cash to electrify the line, the present North London Line can be diverted away from Broad St to run through Hackney and down through Docklands. This will be presented as a 'transport improvement', enabling a decent level of service and an extra station at Homerton to be opened to serve Hackney Hospital. The selling of this move will also make use of the GLC enthusiasm for Docklands.

The result of course is that BR will not be running any extra trains for Hackney at all, but simply shutting down the important 'City Link' to Broad St and killing any hope of new stations in South Hackney at Haggerston and Shoreditch and pushing people using this route on to buses (the peak-only trains from Watford to Broad St would be routed to Stratford). The whole BR plan is cynical in the extreme and the use of Urban Grant regeneration a sick joke. They must not be allowed to get away with what amounts to a con trick.

You can start making them realise this when Philip Satchwell - the BR planner for London and the South-east addresses a public meeting at St Mark's Church Hall, Colverstone Crescent, E8 on Tuesday March 6 at 7.30 pm. Be there and meanwhile use the 'City Link' to Broad Street - it's still cheaper than the bus.

## Cllr Miles Leggett

In our November issue, we carried a report about recent Council meetings which referred to remarks made by Councillor Miles Leggett at the Council's September meeting. We now realise that the remarks made by him, concerning Hackney's housing provisions for Latin American and Rhodesian refugees, were phrased as a question and not as a statement. Therefore we may have attached to him, as a result of this misunderstanding, the racist views that he does not hold.

Councillor-Leggett has asked us to point out that "he is a loyal and long standing member of the Labour party, a devoted democratic

socialist, and one who has spent, and will continue to spend, much of his life in destroying barriers between people, including the ordinary people - particularly his ward constituents - in trying to resolve the many real problems in their daily lives. The allegations made by Hackney People's Press have therefore been very hurtful."

Accordingly, we regret the misunderstanding over our interpretation of Councillor Leggett's remarks, and any offence resulting therefrom, and apologise to him for the hurt and embarrassment he has been caused.

## £100 NEEDED - NOW!

HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS has agreed to print the above insertion as a result of an article which appeared in the November issue. We have also agreed to pay the sum of £50 to Anti-Apartheid and £50 to the Mutual Understanding Committee for Hackney.

As we have no funds for such contingencies we have to raise this money by public appeal and we are planning a benefit and jumble sale which we hope will bring in a substantial part of the total of £100. But to keep HPP as an effective alternative voice for the people of Hackney, we need your donation now. PLEASE SEND whatever you can afford, as soon as possible to Leggett Fund, HPP, c/o 136 Kingsland High Street, London E8.



# N.H.S. SPENDING SCANDAL

Since 1976, the North East Thames Regional Health Authority (of which the City and Hackney Area Health Authority is a part) has received from the DHSS £1.3 million to set up a Medium Secure Unit for psychiatric patients in this region. But so unit has yet been set up, nor will be until at least 1982. However, this story is not confined to the NE Thames Region, nor does it begin in 1976.

## SECURE UNITS

Recommendations have been made for the establishment of Medium Secure Units since 1961. In 1974, the Committee on Mentally Abnormal Offenders Interim Report described the matter of provision of these units as "a matter of urgency". They would provide the facilities for the care and treatment of patients who are persistently violent and/or who are determined not to remain in hospital yet requiring maximum care. They would also provide accommodation for mentally disturbed offenders (at present

in prisons) and to fill the gap between overcrowded special hospitals, like Broadmoor, and the NHS hospitals providing no security at all. For example, there are over 190 patients in the special hospitals who are suitable for transfer to less secure units, but the NHS hospitals are not prepared to accept responsibility for them.

## WAITING LIST

Most of these patients have been waiting four years or more and some for as long as eight or nine. Similarly, in our prisons there were 581 inmates (in November 1978) who were mentally disturbed or mentally handicapped, but hospitals will not accept transfers of the mentally ill from prison even though the prison authorities are quite emphatic that they neither have the facilities for these people, nor the intention of providing them.

In 1974, £5 million was made available for the setting up of interim medium secure units. Since then, a further £17½

million has been given to the 14 Regional Health Authorities, yet not one secure unit exists in the country. Robert Silroy Silk (MP for Ormskirk), speaking at the recent Community Health Council meeting, said that it was "indefensible" that the money had not been spent in any of the 14 regions for the purpose of secure units. He cited examples of RHAs which had not spent the money (e.g. Oxfordshire) and others which had used it for more glamorous schemes such as maternity units.

Dr P C Walker, Regional Medical Officer for NE Thames RHA, replying to these accusations on behalf of his RHA, said that the hospitals and hospital staff, apart from Friern Barnet, refused to accept the responsibility for a unit, and thus the RHA had been unable to spend the money to establish a unit.

## THREE YEARS' TIME

There were now plans for a

unit of 40 beds (half the places required by the Region) at Friern Barnet Hospital, possibly in three years' time.

## PSYCHOGERIATRIC

No satisfactory explanation was made for what had happened to the money which the RHA had already received (apart from hearing that last year's money had gone to improve conditions for psychogeriatric patients at the German Hospital). Yet, as Dr Reed, Consultant Psychiatrist at Hackney Hospital, as well as many members of the CHC audience made clear, there is plenty within the area's psychiatric services on which money could be spent. Dr Reed described how Hackney is short of inpatient facilities. The Area is approximately 100 beds short and that is without taking into consideration any of the special problems which Hackney has. There is a need for a wider range of facilities locally

with the difficulties of managing aggressive patients because of inadequate facilities.

## INSTITUTIONALISATION

At the other end of the spectrum, there is a need for less intense care for those who become too institutionalised too easily. There is also a need for specialised units for adolescents and alcoholics to provide a variety of care and treatment for the variety of patients. We also heard from a CHC member that the notorious F block, the psychiatric section at Hackney Hospital is considered unsuitable for trainee nurses. Yet the Regional plan includes a reducing budget for mental health.

## NO POLICY

It came as no surprise to hear that the RHA has "no coherent policy" on mental health, but it did not inspire any hope for the future to hear that comment came from the Region's very own spokesman.

## DANGEROUS NEW METHOD OF BIRTH CONTROL

How do you fancy the idea of a birth control injection, lasting 3-6 months? It may sound very attractive, but the drug used, Depo Provera, (DP) has some very nasty side effects.

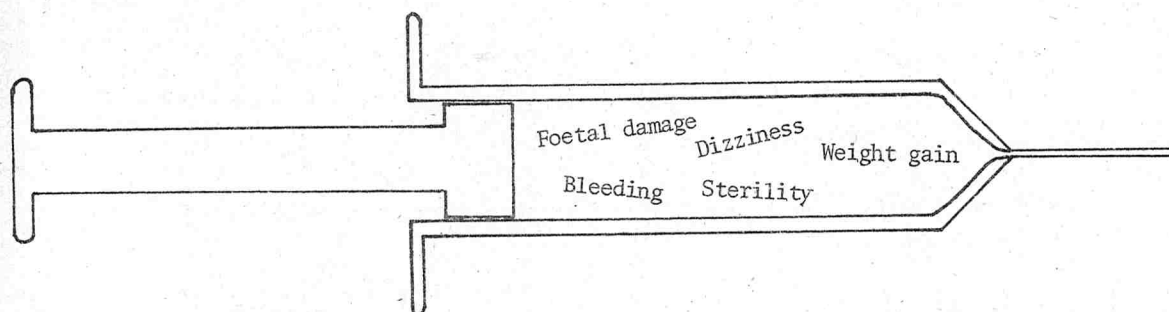
Although not licensed for general use in this country, mainly due to the risk of breast and cervical cancer, DP is still being widely administered to black and working-class women.

the Pill, DP was first tried out mainly on Third World women. By 1975 it was available in 64 countries. Yet in 1979 the drug has still not been fully approved of for use either here or in USA.

DP is only approved by the Committee on Safety of Medicines for two short-term uses (firstly women whose husbands have just had a vasectomy and secondly

A campaign has been started to take action against this dangerous drug. Its aims are to have DP withdrawn from use, to expose the way in which DP has been developed and used in Britain and the Third World, and also to see free, safe and reliable contraception on demand - contraception that does not endanger people's health.

In Hackney, local women's groups have already begun to



Other hazards of the drug include the possibility of permanent sterility and damage to the foetus if taken during early pregnancy, continual bleeding (or no periods at all), dizziness and weight gain to mention but a few.

DP is manufactured by an American company called Upjohn. As in the case of

women who have recently had a injection against Rubella or German measles). Yet doctors are using it much more extensively. Two years ago in the London Hospital in Whitechapel, two thirds of the women given the drug were Asian. So if you're black or working class, you may be offered DP.

take up the fight of the national campaign. For more information, phone 993 0900 or 249 1803.

Needless to say the campaign is in desperate need of funds to print leaflets and to keep going. Please send all donations to Campaign Against Depo Provera, c/o ICAR, 374 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1.

## PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITY

In the middle of January, only two and a half months before the end of the financial year, the Council had a look at their Urban Programme spending that had been allowed to them for 1978/9 and found that they had underspent by some £150,000 or so. If this money wasn't spent, it couldn't be carried over to next year.

HPP heard that Hackney's original idea to get rid of the money was to spend it on car parks, but the People In Partnership Information Officer, Charles Clarke, was able to suggest a number of voluntary groups who had already submitted applications for Partnership funding, and who could spend the money quickly.

Meanwhile, alternative sources of funding have been found for some of the other applications. The Partnership Sub-committee, who decided how the £315,000 that was allocated to voluntary groups is divided up, were due to meet on February 20, but the meeting was further delayed. The voluntary groups had to submit their applications by November 29, which just goes to show bureaucracy in practice.

## WHISKIES

In the end (and HPP also heard that the final decision about who would get the money was made over a few whiskies at an informal get-together of chief officers), some £80,000 was allotted to voluntary groups. Organisations that will benefit from the money include Harambee II, Hackney Country Centre, Chats Palace, Evelyn Court Tenants' Association, Hackney Community Housing, British Red Cross, St John's Ambulance,

Trinidad and Tobago Association, Hackney Under Fives, Off Centre, Women's Aid and the Jewish Deaf Association.

All this still awaits the final OK from the DOE, who are being as bureaucratic as ever. The voluntary groups are getting worried that they may not have time to spend the money and will be pressing that they be allowed to save some of the money into the next financial year.

## WEA plans

The Hackney Workers' Education Association is beginning to plan its courses for next autumn. We are inviting anyone with suggestions for courses that they would like to take part in as students, or teach, to let us know about them.

Courses over the past two years have ranged from The People's Autobiography of Hackney course, which is currently engaged in tape recording eye witness histories of transport in the borough for a future publication and welcomes new members, to a course on the relation between art and politics; from a course on the implications of micro-processors for unemployment to one on Women Today, held one morning a week in Hoxton Hall, with a creche provided.

There will be a meeting of the Hackney WEA on Thursday April 5 at 8 pm at Centreprise to discuss course ideas. In the meantime, interested people are welcome to contact Dorothy Wise, 87 Sewardstone Road, E2, tel: 981 4154.

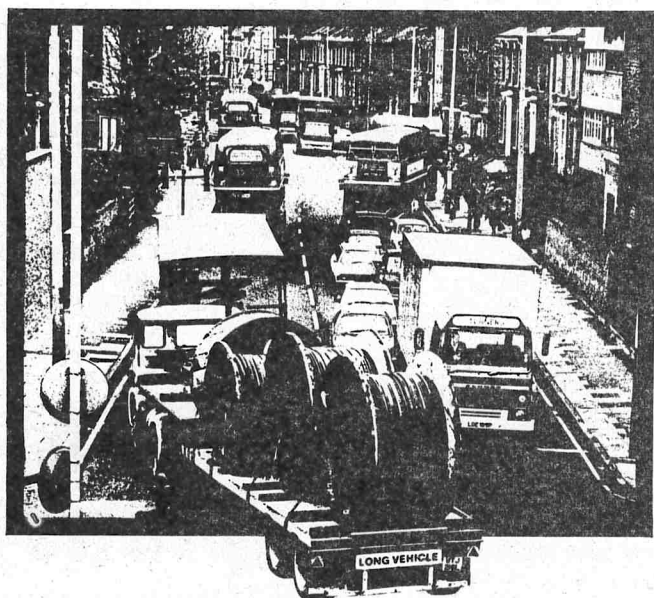


# Graham Rd. Says NO to Lorries

A new campaign is under way in Hackney. Local people have begun a battle to try to get heavy lorries banned from long-suffering Graham Road.

The noise, congestion, pollution, vibrations and danger resulting from the stream of juggernauts, articulated lorries and tankers are all too familiar to the residents in and around Graham Road (running from Mare Street to Dalston Lane). Just how fed up they are with these problems was indicated at a meeting on February 28 at Hackney Labour and Trades Hall. About 90 people turned out to support the initiative already taken, add extra support and discuss ideas for action and objectives.

So far, the campaign is well organised, researched and action-orientated. Figures presented from a study made showed that one heavy lorry goes down Graham Road every 20 seconds! This peaked, on the day of the survey in December, at 300 an hour in late afternoon.



Graham Road at 7.30am.

What's wrong with heavy lorries?  
DISTURBANCE

Anyone who has a front room in a house in Graham Road (or anywhere else on the rat-run used to avoid the congested North Circular Road) doesn't get a good night's sleep. Even if they don't wake up, the noise disturbs their pattern of sleep.

DANGER

There have been 20 serious recorded road accidents (and many more that go unrecorded) on the Graham Road stretch of the rat-run alone.

DAMAGE TO HOUSES

Vibration from heavy lorries seriously damage and shorten the life of the houses. The windows rattle in their

frames, paintwork gets dirty as fast as you do it, and walls and foundations get weakened.

DAMAGE TO HEALTH

Children who live near Spaghetti Junction in Birmingham have been found to be suffering from mental handicap as a result of the amount of lead they've absorbed from the exhaust fumes of passing traffic. The amount of heavy traffic on Graham Road could lead to similar results, unless action is taken.

## Noise

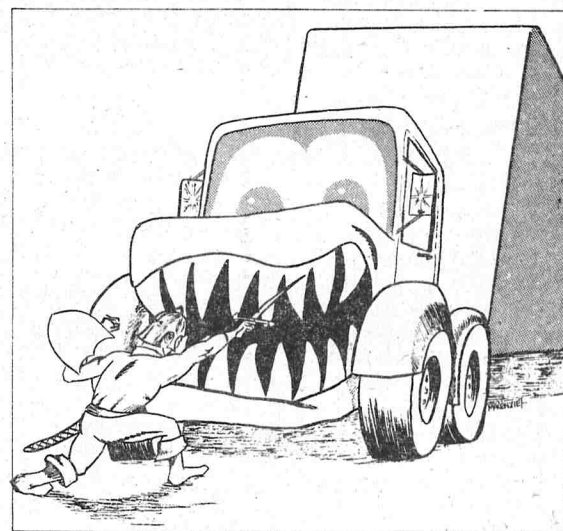
A loud and rumbling tape of traffic noise recorded inside a house in Graham Road was played to the meeting to convey the disturbance local people currently suffer from. Seventy decibels of noise were recorded inside a front room on the road. (An 'acceptable' level of noise for conversation is 58 decibels.) On the kerbside, 90 decibels were monitored - loud enough to cause loss of hearing over a long

Dover and other ports. Even local MP Ron Brown admits that 40 per cent of the lorries using the road do not serve London.

The overriding feeling of the meeting was that lorries should, if possible, be excluded from Graham Road, though it was mentioned that ultimately the only real answer was to keep heavy goods vehicles out of Inner London. Of particular concern is the left hand turning from Mare Street into Graham Road, and the dangerous Lebon's Corner. At the former turning are three signs, indicating that Graham Road is unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles. In practice these are ignored and that is as far as Hackney Council's action on the road goes.

## Meeting

After initially writing to their MP, Ron Brown, he came to them for a meeting during the last week in February, together with their three ward councillors. They fixed another meeting at a date to be arranged between representatives of the Graham Road group and technical officers of the Council. It seems likely that the technical officers will only say to the group "Well, you can either have the traffic as it is now, or we'll build a motorway down the road". They won't offer any real alternatives, such as putting more goods traffic back on the railways, because it is not within their scope to do so. It is a political decision and we must pressurise our political representatives to take action to prevent more and more road traffic.



Far more is required for effective action and some novel ideas were brought up at the meeting. Apart from calls for a mass sit-down in the road, a non-stop walk across a zebra crossing to halt the traffic, withholding rates and submitting bills for double glazing to the Council were all suggested. A petition is currently underway and a march to the Town Hall is being organised. Richard Gee (local councillor) is supporting the petition. Local MPs were invited but did not appear. The group have also held a successful street stall.

## Strategy

One possible strategy for future action on a more comprehensive scale to get the lorries' whole route sealed off to heavy vehicles is to coordinate a campaign with similar groups already formed, or planned, in Wick Road, Ball's Pond Road and St Paul's

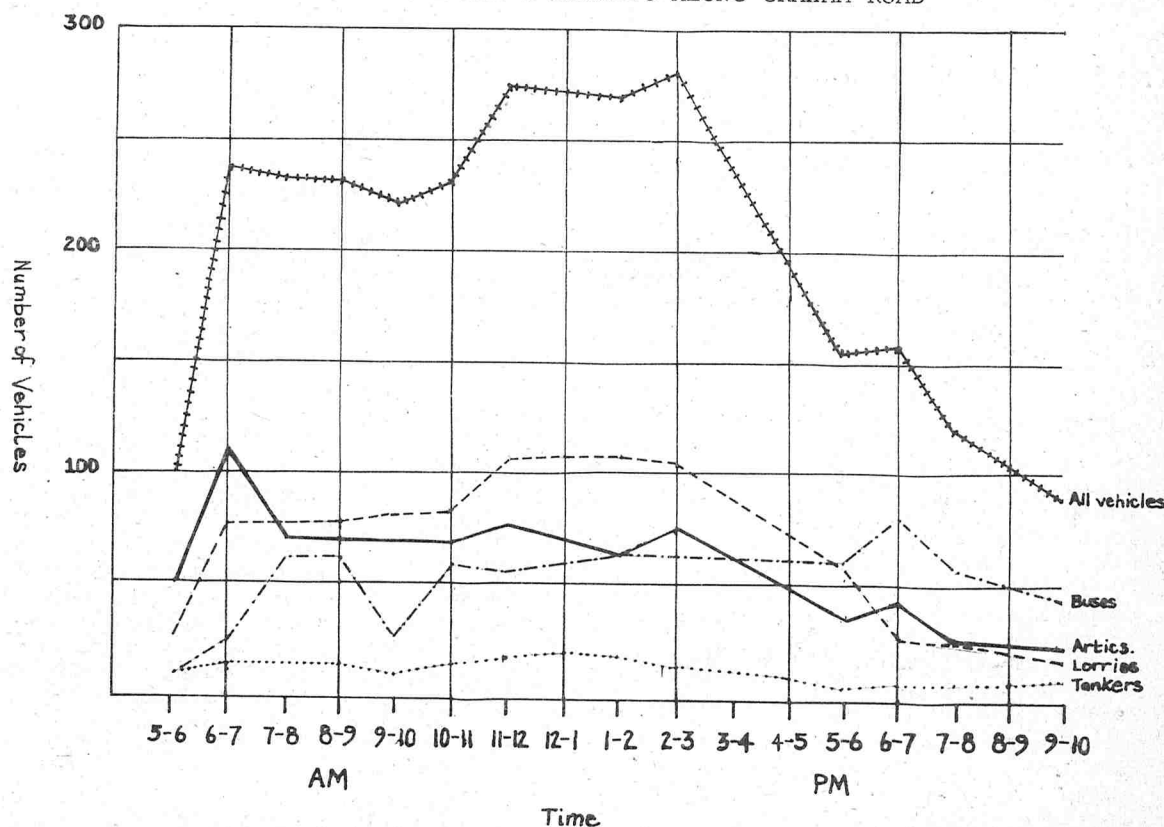
Road. The campaign in Graham Road is setting up an 'Action Group' as a result of the meeting, and they intend to liaise with such groups as Campaign Against The Lorry Menace (CALM) and Transport 2000, the environmental transport action group.

The sad plight of Graham Road is echoed in the nearly-empty railway running to the docks, parallel to Graham Road, and across North London - a railway which could carry far more freight than Graham Road in a far cleaner, quieter and safer way.

The Campaign to Clear Graham Road of heavy lorries needs your help and support (and money too, if possible). Any concerned person please phone Andrew Haig on 249 6232.

Inspired by the group, some residents of Ball's Pond Rd are trying to set up a similar group. If interested, phone 254 1306 and ask for Chris and Charlie.

ANALYSIS OF ONE DAY'S TRAFFIC ALONG GRAHAM ROAD





## It's a hard life being a girl!

A teacher supervising an 'extra-curricular' group of fourth year pupils at Clissold Park school was thinking of producing a play and she took her pupils to see the theatre group Beryl and the Perils.

The ten-strong group has written this story about how they set their play up and how it was received.

We started off as a girls' private studies group in school. Then we started talking about everybody's problems, such as brothers, housework, parents, period pains, etc, and we found that we all felt the same way about these things.

It was really nice to know that other people had the same feelings and this made us feel very close to each other. We trust each other much more now and feel we can tell each other everything. We now feel we can express our feelings very openly in our group.

After a while, we decided to put together a play to show our feelings about being a girl in

school and at home. We decided to call the play "It's A Hard Life Being A Girl". The play is about a girl from the time she is born and through her school life, showing the frustrations she has to put up with



and the things she wants to do but is not allowed to. The time comes when she goes for a job in a manual trade and is turned away because she is a woman.

We wanted to get our ideas across to other people at school. We showed it to a girls' audience only at school, and then at the Hackney Girls' Project.

## LAW & ORDER

The new booklet from the Campaign Against A Criminal Trespass Law deals with the erosion of working-class rights over the current decade. CACTL argue that there has been a clear attempt by both Conservative and Labour governments to resist and control the traditional tactics of workers who otherwise have no effective means of power. These tactics - strikes, occupations, picketing, demonstrating - are under a particularly intensive campaign of abuse at present from the establishment press and media, from MPs on both sides of the House and even from union leaders.

The booklet puts the events of this winter into some sort of perspective. By a useful summary of development since 1970, we can see how the state has constantly attacked workers' actions by the use of the law, sometimes digging up ancient half-forgotten Acts or else, if there is no other easy way to win, by re-interpreting laws to extend their powers.

New laws too have been introduced, the obvious example being the Criminal Trespass Law itself, amongst the effects of which are the abolition of right to trial by jury on many offences. Opposition to this law, in contrast to Heath's attempted Industrial Relations Act, has been minimal, even from trade unions. This is because, the booklet argues, the defeat of the Industrial Relations Bill led the state to tread far more warily in its legislation against workers' tactics and since the Heath government attempts to limit direct action have become far more piecemeal and so less obvious.

This useful pamphlet draws attention to the very important issue of how the status quo is maintained - through the courts, law, and use of the police, with direction from above.

Whose Law And Order? is available from Centerprise or from CACTL, c/o 35 Wellington Street, London WC2, tel 289 3877.

## NF plans arrive at Council

As predicted in last month's HPP, the National Front's planning application for a "change of use" of their Shoreditch headquarters has arrived at the Council's planning department. HPP was told that the application is not "complete", however, and has been sent back to the Front for more information.

The application is in the name of Leachouse Ltd, a subsidiary company set up by NF Properties Ltd, and is to turn the ground floor into an offset litho printing works for general trade. Five people will be employed by the printshop.

Bob Masters, chairperson of the Council planning committee, told the Council meeting that the planning application will be dealt with in the same way as all other planning applications. This may or may not be true. Council employees are obviously keeping a careful eye on the application and the borough solicitor's department is also involved.



Meanwhile, the Anti-Nazi League petition with 20,000 signatures, has still not been handed into the Council, because of the Council workers' strike. Hackney and Tower Hamlets Trades Council are organising a joint meeting to discuss local trade union action that could possibly be taken against the Nazi headquarters. More and more it seems that only direct political pressure will drive the Front out of Hackney. There is talk of a massive demonstration being held in the summer, and only this type of action has any chance of succeeding.

## Building the Left

There are thousands, probably tens of thousands, of people who regard themselves as revolutionary socialists in Britain today.

But their numbers are matched only by their relative ineffectiveness. Even now, when important sections of the working class are defying their traditional political leaders in the Labour Party, comparatively few of them look to the revolutionary left for answers in their struggles.

Why are revolutionaries divided into so many different groups - and why do so many choose not to join any group at all? Is it possible or desirable to build a unified revolutionary party - and if so, what kind of party should it be, and how do we set about building it?

*Socialist Challenge* was launched in June 1977 as part of a campaign to try to work out answers to these questions. We recognise that the different revolutionary organisations (not to mention individuals) have different viewpoints on a number of questions. These are often important, and should not be brushed under the carpet.

We think that through a process of open debate and joint work (in the trade unions, the Women's Movement, in campaigns like the anti-racist and "Troops Out" movements) we can test out each other's intentions and lay the basis for overcoming many of the old sectarian attitudes which have dogged the far left in Britain for so long.

### UNITY

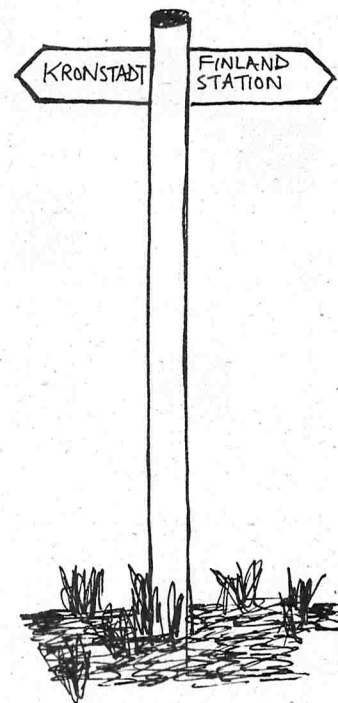
Already the International Marxist Group, the International Socialist Alliance and Big Flame - as well as large numbers of independent socialists - have found it possible to work together in putting forward a socialist alternative in elections through Socialist Unity.

Another important step in this direction was the joint statement issued on the recent Iran demonstration by the Socialist Workers' Party, the International Marxist Group, Big Flame and Workers Action.

Along with such unity in action must come open debate around the basic principles of revolutionary socialism.

A contribution to this discussion was recently made with a joint appeal for revolutionary unity signed by the IMG and ISA and published in *Socialist Challenge* on January 4.

As local supporters of this appeal, Hackney Socialist Challenge Group is seeking to promote the maximum discussion around it. We are therefore holding a meeting to which all those who share a basic commitment to developing joint work among revolutionaries with the aim of testing out the possibility of building a unified organisation are invited.



The meeting is on Thursday March 15 at 7.30 pm in the Britannia pub, Mare St, E8. There will be speakers from the International Marxist Group and the International Socialist Alliance, and we have also invited a speaker from the local Socialist Workers' Party.

For more details, contact Hackney Socialist Challenge Group, PO Box 50, London N1, or phone 359 8180 (day) and ask for Martin.

## Arts Umbrella

Hackney Umbrella Group Arts Project was formed in November 1978 by a group of professional artists - painters, actors, potters, sculptor and designers - all resident or working in Hackney.

Its objective is to initiate and promote the work of Hackney artists within the borough and present their work to everyone interested or involved in these fields.

We need people - artists and well-wishers - to back our

events. Much interest and support had already been shown. Our first event, at Chats Palace in late February, was highly successful. An informal evening with bar and food - Stuart Deeks (violin) and John Nash (guitar) in a wide ranging programme of music.

On March 4 at 8 pm at Chats Palace, there is a reading entitled "Jack And Jill" by Peter and Hilary Godfrey from the works of R D Laing.

## RANK FILMS AT RIO

The news that the Dalston Odeon is to close has been greeted with delight by the Rio working party. This is a community group which is taking over the Rio cinema in Kingsland High Street to run it as a cinema and multi-purpose arts centre.

Now that Ranks have closed the Odeon, the Rio has been allowed to have its choice of films on the Rank circuit, which means that commercial films which

attract big audiences will be shown at the Rio, in their first run in London.

The Rio will now definitely open under its new management on April 9. The programme for the opening is still being finalised and we will be publishing a special feature on the Rio and its complete month's programme in our next issue.

The Rio is also co-operating with local schools which are interested in having

film studies on the curriculum. A number have already been in touch with the Rio, and any other teachers or pupils who would like to study the cinema are asked to do so as well.

The auditorium will also be suitable for plays and music. If you would like to hold an event there, you are also asked to contact the Rio.

Rio Centre, c/o 136 Kingsland High St, E8.



# Hackney MAR '79 Gasbag

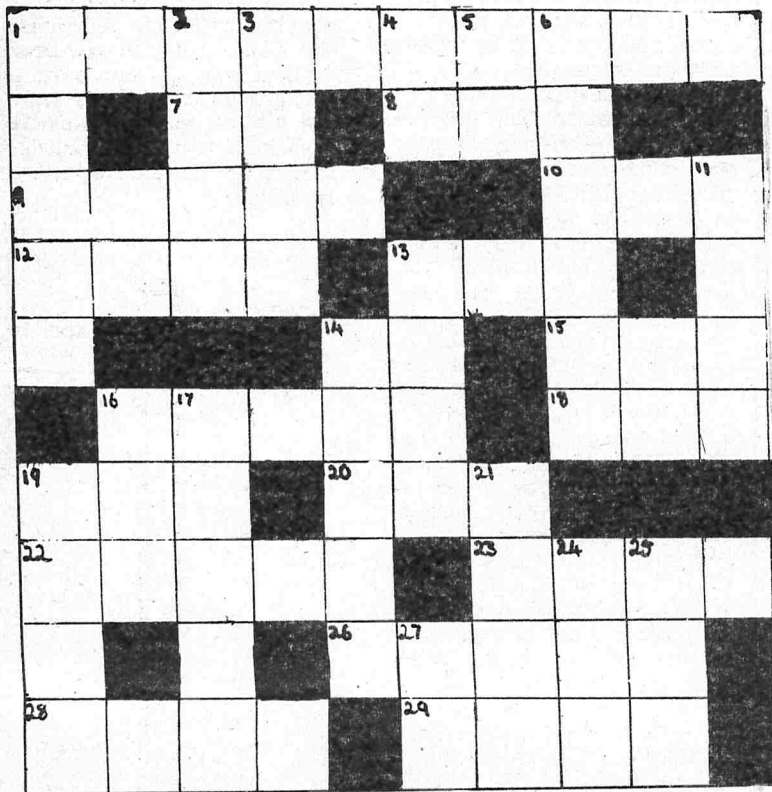
## HACKNEYGASBAG

## WHODUNNIT?

There will be a £1. For the first correct entry drawn on the 22nd MARCH.

Every entrant will get a free badge.

Entries to be sent to Hackney Gasbag c/o centerprise 136 Kingsland High Street E.5.



ACROSS

Down

1. Barry Sheene rides one of these. (10)
7. Kung-Fu noise (2)
8. You travel in one of these (3)
9. ....;West;East;South (5)
10. The opposite of take away (in sums) (3)
12. Female sheep (plural) (4)
13. Opposite of good (3)
14. Another word for thank you (2)
15. A man's name (3)
18. A bird lays it (3)
19. What Fonzy says (3)
20. Female of he (3)
22. The candle is not alight (5)
23. To want (4)
26. A posher name for older (5)
28. 11 footballers make one. (4)
29. What is the capital of Norway (4)

1. You work for ---- (5)
2. You find it on every wheel of a car (4)
3. A cereal (4)
4. These letters you find on a motorbike. It stands for the measurement (2)
5. The answer is the same as no. across (2) starts with y.
6. What people used to rock their babies to sleep in (6)
11. Ding ---- (4)
13. You have one to keep you clean (4)
14. Which of the five senses are missing sight feeling smell hearing and ---- (5)
16. In roman numerals X
17. The royal family jumbled up (5)
19. Second name of a champion Grand Prix winner. (4)
23. Along fish. (3)
24. A Cockney hero. (3)

### TONGUE

Mrs Cripp's cat crept into the crypt, crept round and crept out through a crack.

If a shipshape ship shop stocks six shipshape shop-soiled ships, how many shipshape shop-soiled ships would six shipshape ship shops stock??

Oh, Horace! Isn't it horrible when you're hot and in a hurry.

### 'TWISTERS

The squirrel squeals with breathalysing indignation, quivering spluttering complete repudiation of the impossibly preposterous allegation of gross intoxication.

Two thirsty thatchers thoughtfully thatched a thrush's nest. Such a thanless task.

Statement from Mr. JAMES SIMPKINS  
Mr. James Simpkins is the family butler. He also has a vague criminal record

ON the day concerned Thaxton Hall was suffering from an acute shortage of staff. However, myself and Miss Esanche struggled to complete the duties that we were neccasary, and we managed to serve lunch at the hour of twelve, as normal. Lunch was served to Mr. Smedley-Jones and the Captain in the drawing-room. Lunch, for your information, is always served in the drawing room. Anyhow, we finished serving lunch at two o'clock, at which time I was forced to help Miss Esanche with the washing-up. The stupid girl broke three plates on the stone floor. After this undisirable task myself and Miss Esanche went upstairs to the Ballroom, to prepare it for a coming dance. This was about two-thirty. From then till roughly half past four we were both working in the room. Then I made a quick inspection of the spare



IS HE  
THE  
KILLER?

rooms-you just can't trust that foolish girl to complete anything properly-and then I went downstairs to begin the dinner. For this I had to wear a very degrading apron. I would estimate that this was about five o'clock

After dinner I usually have two hours off, but due to the shortage of staff I had to drive down to the station to pick up the guests.

The pouring rain had meant the train had had to be cancelled. Naturally I was angry and very annoyed. As I was walking through the garden to the house, after parking the car, I caught sight of the gardener, Mr. Olgy, leaning over a limp body. Imagine my astonishment when I saw the pale face of the Captain!! Immediately rushed to the summer house where I could see a light shining. Mr. Olgy followed on behind. We burst into the summer house, and told everything. Mr. Olgy said that he had just found the body as I came in, but personally I believe that the dead body was his doing...

## FROM JAMAICA TO HACKNEY

Home back in Jamaica was my place.

After a while we came to live in Hackney.

Coming home was a difficult job.

Keeping my little brothers amused.

Now I am here in Hackney. Bored stiff.

Even though, you have to like it or lump it.

You'd better stay away from Hackney. It's a dump.



### FOUL PLAY

This film is about an ordinary woman and a police lieutenant in New York they are involved in a conspiracy to kill the Pope who is there on a clacical music festival but the unlucky Pope is assassinated.

The film was a good plot and ended with two dead boddies.

why dont you see it?



If blue houses are made of blue bricks, yellow houses are made of yellow bricks, and red houses are made of red bricks, what are green houses made of?  
GLASS !!!

Why do City businessmen carry umbrellas,? Because umbrellas can't walk...



There was three monkeys in bed one named Doe one named Ray and one named me. Doe and Ray fell out of bed who was left?

Friend gives an answer. me.

What is black and white and red all over?  
answer. A zebra with sun burn.

Did you here the one about the paper shop?  
answer. It blew away.

This edition of Hackney Gasbag was written and produced by: Josh Dalby Lee James, Chris Bryant, Janet Smith, Dean Smith, Joe Cunningham, Mark Sexton, and Harold Lucraft.



# information

All listings on this page are inserted absolutely FREE.  
For the next issue, just send us your information by

FRIDAY 23 MARCH

Write to Hackney People's Press, c/o 136 Kingsland High Street, London E.8.

## Community, Tenants and Pensioners Groups

**HACKNEY PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION**  
34 Dalston Lane, E8  
Advice service on Tuesday and Thursdays from 10.30 to 4pm. Tea Bar Monday to Friday 10.30 to 4pm.

**TASK FORCE**  
34 Dalston Lane, E8. Tel. 254 1620  
Free advice for pensioners in Hackney. Odd jobs and visits in N16 and N4 only. Pensioners' activities and neighbourhood care in N5.

**HACKNEY ASSOCIATION FOR WELFARE OF OLD PEOPLE**  
22 Dalston Lane, E8. Tel. 254 0715

**HARAMBEE 2 PROJECT**  
74 Downham Road N1.  
Social and advice centre, aimed particularly at black people.  
Tuesday 10am-10pm  
Thursday 10am-4.30pm  
Friday 10am-10pm

**OFF CENTRE**  
25 Hackney Grove, E8. Tel. 985 8566  
Advice for young people between 13 and 25 with any problems.  
Monday-Friday 10am-6pm (open until 8.30pm on Thursdays).

**FRIENDS ANONYMOUS SERVICE**  
Friendship House, 27 Hackney Grove, E8.  
Your telephone service with people always willing to listen and act.  
986 2233 (24 hours)  
985 0973 (office hours)  
986 9146 (office hours)

**FEDERATION OF HACKNEY TENANTS ASSOCIATIONS**  
Represents borough, GLC and private tenants throughout Hackney. Contact joint secretaries for details: Bob Darke, 154 Trelawney Estate, Paragon Road, E9 and Steve Jacobs, c/o ALHE, 17 Victoria Park Square, E2 (981 1221).

**HACKNEY HOUSING ACTION GROUP**  
Concerned about the blight of homes left empty for long periods in Hackney and working to get them used. Contact Jon Webber, Centerprise, 136 Kingsland High Street, E8.

**HACKNEY GINGERBREAD**  
Group for one parent families. Meets every Monday at the Family Centre, Rectory Road, N16. Creche available. Contact Teresa Blackhall, 729 1647 for details.

**HOMERTON GINGERBREAD**  
Group for one parent families. Meets every other day at the Wally Foster Centre. Contact 985 3972 details.

**HACKNEY UNITED TENANTS ASSOCIATION**  
c/o 35 Fimmere House, Woodberry Down, N4.

## Women

**HACKNEY ABORTION CAMPAIGN**  
Meetings fortnightly at 20 Parkholme Road, E8. Contact 249 3768 for details.

**WOMEN'S CENTRE**  
1 Cazenove Road, N16.  
Advice, creche, children's clothes swap shop, beginners photography, crafts, yoga, relaxation, consciousness raising groups, food co-op, alternative medicine, self-defence. Further information from 806 6664. All women welcome.

**RAPE CRISIS CENTRE**  
Tel. 340 6145. 24 hour information and advice.

**HACKNEY SOCIALIST FEMINIST GROUP**  
Meet alternate Mondays at the Factory, Matthias Road, N 16, at 7.30pm. Contact Pat 254 5821 or Harriet 254 6208.

**HACKNEY TRADES COUNCIL WOMEN'S SUB COMMITTEE**  
Re-formed recently. Meets once a month. Contact Judy Newcombe, 254 0685 for details. All women and men welcome.

## Health

**CITY AND HACKNEY COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL**  
Shoreditch Health Centre, 210 Kingsland Road, E2. Tel. 739 6308/8351.  
The public's voice in the NHS—provides advice, takes up your complaints and criticisms. Open meeting on 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm. Publishes HEALTH IN HACKNEY: a comprehensive FREE guide to health facilities and services in the area.

**HANDICAPPED CHILDREN IN HACKNEY**  
Advice, ideas, information. Trying to contact all families in district with a handicapped child. Contact Ann Purdon, 48 Mount Pleasant Lane, E5. Tel. 808 8438.

**THE BIRTH CENTRE**  
188 Old Street, EC1. Tel. 251 4076.  
Information, advice, lectures and seminars on birth at home and in hospital.  
Open evening every Wednesday 8pm. 25p.

**EAST LONDON WOMEN'S HEALTH GROUP**  
c/o 116 Albion Drive, E8.

**STOKE NEWINGTON HEALTH GROUP**  
Local people interested in all matters concerned with health. Contact Alan Clarke, 24 Kynaston Road, N.16. 254 3277.

**COMMUNITY HEALTH FOUNDATION**  
188 Old Street, EC1. 251 4076.

## Advice

Free legal advice on housing, landlord and tenant, employment, social security, welfare, matrimonial, immigration and discrimination problems can be obtained from the following centres:

**CENTERPRISE**  
136 Kingsland High Street, E8. Tel. 254 9632.  
THURSDAYS 6.30-7.30pm.

**HOXTON HALL**  
128a Hoxton Street, N1. Tel. 739 5431.  
WEDNESDAYS 7-8pm.

**KINGSMEAD**  
Wally Foster Centre, Homerton High Street, E9.  
Tel. 985 3804.  
TUESDAYS 7-8pm.

**SNAGS**  
102 Manor Road, N16. Tel. 800 3770.  
MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS 7-8pm. (802 7949).

**ALLEN ROAD**  
12 Allen Road, N16.  
THURSDAYS 7-8pm.

Advice can also be obtained from:

**HACKNEY ADVICE BUREAU & LAW CENTRE**  
236-8 Mare Street, E8. Tel. 986 8446.  
Open Monday-Friday 10am-5pm (7.30 on Thursdays).  
Legal aid and advice on housing, rents, repairs and employment problems.

**CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**  
1-11 Hoxton Street, N1. Tel. 739 4654.  
106 Old Street, EC1. Tel. 253 2155.

**HACKNEY COUNCIL FOR RACIAL EQUALITY. 245 Mare St, E8.**  
TUESDAYS 7-8.30pm.  
Immigration, discrimination, housing law and other problems. 986 4121.

**THE FAMILY CENTRE**  
50 Rectory Road, N16. Tel. 249 8334.  
Information and help in all community problems. Cooking, washing, creche facilities. Open all day.

**HOUSING ADVICE CENTRE**  
302-4 Mare Street, E8. Tel. 986 8123.  
Helps with all housing problems. Repairs, rebates, landlord/tenant, council/tenant.

**HACKNEY CENTRAL INFORMATION BUREAU**  
Town Hall, Mare Street, E8. Tel. 986 3123.

**HACKNEY NORTH LABOUR PARTY ADVICE CENTRE**  
5 Stamford Hill, N16.  
Advice and information on legal, financial, welfare, housing, social security and personal problems.  
FRIDAYS 7-8pm.

**RECTORY HOUSING AND WELFARE ADVICE CENTRE**  
Family Centre, 50 Rectory Road, N16.  
Help with housing, employment, health and social security and community and race relations problems.  
SUNDAYS 10.30am-12.00 noon.

Advice can also be obtained from **HARAMBEE 2 PROJECT, OFF CENTRE** and **FRIENDS ANONYMOUS**. See Community Groups listing on this page.

For MPs and councillors Advice surgeries see **LABOUR PARTY** under **POLITICAL GROUPS** listing on this page.

Arrested? Helping enquiries? Evicted?

EMERGENCY LEGAL SERVICE

Ring 986 9891. 24 hour free legal service from 6pm Friday over whole weekend.

## Education

**ENGLISH FOR SPANISH SPEAKERS**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6.30pm at Latin America Centre, 17 Hoxton Square, N1.

**ADULT LITERACY SCHEMES**  
For details of adult literacy courses in your area contact:

Carol Morris, BETHNAL GREEN AEI, 229 Bethnal Green Road, E2. 739 7790.

Donald Kenrick, CLAPTON AEI, Brooke House, Kenninghall Road, E5. 985 9646.

Graham Morris, HACKNEY COLLEGE, 249 7221.

June Hewes, HACKNEY LIBRARIES, Shoreditch Library, Pitfield Street, N1. 739 5153.

Sue Shrapnel, HACKNEY READING CENTRE, 136 Kingsland High Street, E8. 254 9635.

Cal Weatherald, Highbury Manor AEI, Jack Ashley School, Blackstock Road, N4 226 9190.  
John Rake, HOXTON HALL, 128a Hoxton Street, N1. 739 5431.

**HACKNEY LANGUAGE SCHEME**  
Teach the kind of English needed in day-to-day life. Classes operate throughout Hackney. For further information contact Annette Giles, 249 1496, or call at the Family Centre, Rectory Road, N.16 on Thursday mornings.

## Political Groups

**HACKNEY LABOUR PARTY HACKNEY NORTH AND STOKE NEWINGTON**  
Constituents advice service at 7pm every Friday at 5 Stamford Hill, N16 when local councillors are present. David Weitzmann, MP, also runs advice service every other Sunday at 11am. Ken Livingstone, GLC councillor, has advice service generally on 4th Thursday of each month.  
Details from 5 Stamford Hill, N16. Tel. 800 7430.  
**HACKNEY NORTH LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS:** for details contact secretary, Mumtaz Khan, c/o 5 Stamford Hill, N16.

**HACKNEY SOUTH & SHOREDITCH**  
Constituents advice service at 7.30pm. every Friday at 96 Dalston Lane, E8. Ron Brown, MP, available 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. Margaret Morgan, GLC Councillor, available 1st Friday of each month. Local councillors every Friday. Advice service also operates at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Bletchley Street, N1, at 7pm. on 1st and 3rd Fridays. Ron Brown is present on 1st and 3rd Fridays. Margaret Morgan on 3rd Fridays, and local councillors on 1st and 3rd Fridays.  
**HACKNEY SOUTH LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS:** for details contact secretary c/o 96 Dalston Lane, E8.

**HACKNEY CENTRAL**  
Constituents advice service at 7.30pm. every Friday at 96 Dalston Lane, E8. Stanley Clinton Davis, MP, available every Friday. Ellis Hillman, GLC Councillor, available every other Friday. Local councillors every Friday.  
**HACKNEY CENTRAL LABOUR PARTY YOUNG SOCIALISTS:** for details contact Mrs A Smith, 294 Navarino Mansions, E8.

**HACKNEY YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE**  
Meets weekly. All young people welcome.

**HACKNEY COMMUNIST PARTY**  
Twelve branches hold meetings regularly throughout the borough. All welcome.

**HACKNEY MORNING STAR GROUP**  
Meets weekly. Organises political, social and fund-raising events in support of Britain's socialist daily paper, the Morning Star. All Morning Star readers/supporters welcome.

For further information and a copy of the monthly newsletter detailing the meetings, campaigning actions etc. organised by the Hackney Morning Star group, Young Communist League and Communist Party contact David Green, 126 Amhurst Road, E8. Tel. 249 6374.

**HACKNEY SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY**  
Meets regularly in the borough. Contact Liz 739 9772 for details.

**LONDON WORKERS GROUP**  
For independent militants, working anarchists, and all those who wish to organise for direct workers control. Meets fortnightly. Contact Box W, Rising Free, 182 Upper Street, N1, or ring Dave, 249 7042.

**ANARCHY COLLECTIVE**  
Produces ANARCHY, a seasonal magazine on sale in Centerprise and Rising Free, 20p. Also involved in general anarchist activity. Ring 359 4794 before 8pm.

**LIBERTARIAN COMMUNIST GROUP**  
c/o 136 Kingsland High Street. E8.

**ANARCHIST COMMUNIST ASSOCIATION**  
Box 11, Rising Free, 182 Upper Street, N1.

**SOCIETY FOR ANGLO-CHINESE UNDERSTANDING**  
Hackney/Islington Branch. Contact Maureen Taylor or Mon Lawlor (263 4359 during daytime). SACU is open to anyone who favours friendship and understanding between Britain and socialist China.

**HACKNEY COMMITTEE AGAINST RACIALISM**  
All-party anti-racist campaign. Meets first Wednesday of each month at the Family Centre, Rectory Road, N16.

**SOCIALIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN HACKNEY GROUP**  
Meets second Thursday of every month at 8pm at Centerprise, 136 Kingsland High Street E8.

**HACKNEY AND ISLINGTON WORLD DEVELOPMENT MOVEMENT**  
Campaigns on third world issues, especially against the Arms Trade to these countries.

## NEW COMMUNIST PARTY

Hackney Branch meets on a Tuesday night at Centerprise, 8pm. Information from NCP, 395 Walworth Road, SE17 2AW.

Hackney Socialist Challenge Supporters Group meets fortnightly on Thursdays at 7.30pm in the Britannia, Mare St.  
Further details from Hackney SC, c/o PO Box 50, London N.1. or from Martin, 359 8180 (day).

## Men

**DALSTON MEN'S GROUP**  
Contact Pete, 39 Parkhome Road, E8. Tel. 249 3072.

**EAST LONDON/BRIXTON MEN'S GROUP**  
Contact Paul, 12 Montague Road, E8. Tel. 254 9497.

**EAST LONDON MEN'S CENTRE**  
19 Redmans Road, E1. Tel. 790 2454.

## OFF CENTRE

Drop-in centre for Young Unemployed.

Free snacks, use of telephones and newspapers. A meeting place for the young unemployed.

Off Centre Basement.  
25 Hackney Grove, E8.  
986 4016.

## Children

**HACKNEY UNDER FIVES**  
136 Kingsland High Street, E8. Tel. 254 9145.  
Information and support for parents with children below school age. Contact Madge Harte. Stores are available every Saturday from 10am-12.30pm. Open monthly meetings first Tuesday of every month at 8pm. in Centerprise.

**HACKNEY PLAY ASSOCIATION**  
136 Kingsland High Street, E8. Tel. 254 9145.  
Information, advice and help to people organising play facilities for children. Contact Lilian McFetridge or Mo Ross.

**CHILD-CARE BULLETIN COLLECTIVE**  
112b Forest Road E8.  
Publishes bulletins and pamphlets about child care and related topics. Collective is open to anyone interested. Contact 226 0817 or 254 2227 for details of next meeting—with creche.

## TOY LIBRARY

Family Centre, 50 Rectory Road, N.16. A new toy library for all children under 5. Play facilities, tea. Every Tuesday 2-3.30pm. Contact Sue Corlett 806 1968.

## Transport

**HACKNEY PUBLIC TRANSPORT ACTION COMMITTEE**  
Meets regularly to discuss how to improve public transport in Hackney. Contact Tony Jacobs, 3 Hockley House, Morning Lane, E9. Tel. 986 2303.

**HACKNEY CYCLISTS ACTION GROUP**  
Contact Tessa Bain, 10 Kynaston Road, N.16. 254 4559

## Gays

**EAST LONDON FAGGOTS**  
Collective of gay socialists living and working in East London. Contact 19 Redmans Road, E1. Tel. 790 2454.

**GAY SWITCHBOARD**  
Tel. 837 7324. 24 hour information and advice.

**EAST LONDON CHE (Campaign for Homosexual Equality)**  
East London CHE welcomes gay women and men. For details phone John, 504 1110 or Kate, 539 2331.

**GEMMA**  
Gemma Group for Disabled Lesbians, including older women. Contact BM Box 5700, London WC1V 6XX.

## Food

**TOWARDS JUPITER**  
191 Mare Street E8. 985 5394  
Wholefood shop also selling books and crafts.

**FOOD FOR ALL**  
3 Cazenove Road, N16. Tel. 806 4138.  
Wholefood shop, also selling books and crafts. All food carries levy to support the women's centre next door (see WOMEN) and proposed school at 5 Cazenove Road.

## HACKNEY SOCIETY

An amenity group, affiliated to the Civic Trust, concerned with Hackney's environment and architecture. Meets on the third Monday of each month.  
Details from Chairman, David Batchelor, Tel. 985 7937 or Secretary, Robert Hill, 75 Glyn Road E5 Tel. 986 8761.

## Music and Broadcasts

**ISLINGTON & HACKNEY MUSIC WORKSHOP**  
Sing-song third Thursday every month, 8pm. Free. The Florence, Florence Street, N1.

**HACKNEY HOSPITAL RADIO**  
Programme schedule:  
Mon-Fri 7pm-9pm Pop Show  
9pm-11pm Easy Listening Show  
Sunday 1pm-5pm Pop Shows  
5pm-7pm Soul Show  
7pm-10pm Sunday Supplement (local and international news, "In Bed with a Book", funnies and music.)

Hackney Radio Roadshow disco unit. Contact Bob Kingsley 539 6235 or Hackney Hospital Radio, 985 5555 ext 115.

Please send me a year's subscription to HPP. I enclose a cheque/PO for £2 made out to HACKNEY PEOPLE'S PRESS.

Send to HPP, c/o 136 Kingsland High St, E8

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_



## Workshops

**THE WORKSHOP**  
81 Lenthall Road, E8. Tel. 254 3082.  
Print your own posters and T-shirts. Cost of materials only. Open by arrangement.

**COMET WORKSHOP**  
Halcomb Street, N1. Tel. 729 0936.  
Learn sewing, macramé, toymaking, woodwork. Creche available, toy library. Tea and coffee. Open every weekday.



# HACKNEY ANTI-NUCLEAR FESTIVAL

SUNDAY

MARCH 25th

3-10 pm

Theatre - Films - Stalls



HOXTON HALL

128a HOXTON

ST. N1

Books - Food - Discussion - Speakers

Organised by Hackney Friends of the Earth & Hackney Anti-Nuclear Group

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT  
NUCLEAR POWER?

HOW DOES NUCLEAR POWER  
AFFECT YOU?

EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS  
WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT NUCLEAR  
POWER BUT WERE AFRAID TO

EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS  
WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT NUCLEAR  
POWER, BUT WERE AFRAID TO  
ASK, WILL BE ANSWERED AT THE  
HACKNEY ANTI-NUCLEAR  
FESTIVAL!

The programme starts at  
3 pm and consists of:

3 pm CND film, "All Against  
The Bomb", followed by

discussion led by the CND  
national organiser.

4 pm - Theatre, performed  
by CounterAct.

5 pm - Film, "More Nuclear  
Power?"

6 pm - "Torness, Keep It  
Green". Talk and discussion  
on Torness, Britain's next  
nuclear power station.

7 pm - Speaker from "Science  
For People".

7.30 pm - Ernie Roberts,  
Prospective Parliamentary  
candidate for Hackney North  
and Stoke Newington.

7.45-9.15 pm - Discussion  
on nuclear power and the  
Labour movement, led by

Pat Coyne (*Undercurrents*  
collective) and Ian Fairlie  
(Socialist Environment and  
Resources Association).

You can stay all day, or  
just come to the parts that  
interest you.

Admission free, refresh-  
ments available. Stalls run  
by Hackney Friends of the  
Earth, Hackney Anti-Nuclear  
Group, CND, SERA and Sunpower  
Ecology Centre.

The festival is organised  
by Hackney Anti-Nuclear  
Group (HANG) and Hackney  
Friends of the Earth (HFOE).

You owe it to yourself to  
find out more about nuclear  
power before it is too late!

Q: I don't live near a  
nuclear power station, so  
how can it affect me?

A: You don't have to live  
near one for it to affect  
you. Find out why, by going  
to the Hackney Anti-Nuclear  
Festival.

For more information, contact  
Jim on 802 0122 or Klaus on  
226 1799.

## Insulation working party set up

A Hackney Insulation  
Working Party has been  
set up with the practical  
aim of encouraging insul-  
ation in local property, so  
cutting fuel bills and  
saving energy. Their ini-  
tial objectives are:

1. To draw up a planning  
and policy document for  
the whole of Hackney and  
including -
- a) different types of in-  
sulation and where they  
are appropriate
- b) insulation standards for  
private and public new  
buildings and renovation
- c) costings
- d) employment implications
- e) possible funding sources
- f) priorities

2. To comment on plans of the  
council, GLC, housing assoc-  
iations and other groups as-  
sociated with housing, and where  
possible to seek wide publicity  
for alternatives. Also on such  
things as take-up of grants.

3. To organise some kind of  
pilot project and/or infor-  
mation pack or workshop for  
local groups. Another idea  
would be a mobile exhibition.

The working party is intending  
to bring together three areas:

- those who are in or working  
with groups having problems  
keeping warm or paying fuel  
bills
- those concerned with unemploy-  
ment; insulation as opposed  
to greater energy production  
creates more jobs, and local  
ones.
- those who would like to see  
energy that is safe, locally  
controlled and flexible - eve-  
rything that nuclear fuel  
isn't.

The group was set up by the  
Hackney Socialist Technology  
Group, and has an initial com-  
position of a community worker,  
a member of Friends of the Earth,  
a Task Force Worker, an econ-  
omist and someone working  
with unemployed young people.

They would like feedback and  
suggestions of the type of pro-  
jects they could undertake.  
Meetings are to be held reg-  
ularly and members of local  
groups are welcome.

Anyone interested contact:  
Alistair Wallace, 34, Dalston  
Lane, E.8. Tel. 254 1620

## ECOLOGY BOOKSHOP

Sun Power Ecology Centre is  
a new bookshop near Finsbury  
Park. We specialise in  
literature on the environment,  
energy, organic gardening,  
and farming, wholefood cook-  
ing, wildlife, crafts and  
education.

If you want a book which  
we do not have in stock,  
we can order it for you.



We also sell crafts from  
Third World countries and  
from local people. We have  
a limited supply of whole-  
foods too.

Come and visit us - we  
are open Monday-Wednesday  
and Saturday, 10-6 pm,  
Thursday 12-6 pm and  
Friday 10-7 pm, at 83  
Blackstock Road.

**WARNING:  
NUCLEAR RADIATION  
IS HAZARDOUS  
TO YOUR HEALTH.**

Your government wants you to be aware  
of the dangers of smoking.  
So it requires that a warning  
come with the product.

Your government does not  
want you to be aware of the dangers  
of nuclear energy.

It's the government's product.

Undercurrents